



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Great Plains Region

Montana Area Office

P.O. Box 30137

Billings, Montana 59107-0137



IN REPLY REFER TO: MT-450

October 1, 2013

## **FAXOGRAM: Water Order Change**

To: Chief, Power Supply and Billing Division, WAPA, Watertown, South Dakota  
Attention: F-6001  
Chief, Power Dispatching Branch, WAPA, Loveland, Colorado  
Attention: J-4120  
Facilities Manager, Hardin, Montana  
Attention: MT-300: Tom Tauscher  
Project Manager, Mills, Wyoming  
Attention: WY-4000, WY-4100, WY-6400  
Assistant Superintendent, National Park Service, Lovell, Wyoming  
Attention: Valerie Newman

From: Reservoir and River Operations, Billings, Montana /S/ Tim H. Felchle

Subject: **Yellowtail Water Release Order - BHR No. 14-01**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS**

Elevation: 3635.53 feet; Storage: 967,489 acre-feet; River Release: 1,900 cfs; Inflow: 2,900 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

With the 2013 irrigation season coming to a close, the BIA has requested all diversions to the Bighorn Canal be gradually decreased to 0 cfs by October 8, 2013.

In addition, power generation indicates actual river flows are lower than anticipated. In response, the following operation changes are required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant.

**SPECIAL NOTE: To provide the proper mixing of water releases to the Bighorn River in attempt to minimize PSAT levels, it is desirable to maintain the Yellowtail Afterbay Reservoir at or above elevation 3183.0 feet.**

### **YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:**

**At 0900 hour on Wednesday, October 2, 2013:**

*Maintain turbine release to 2,030 cfs ( $\approx$  1,260 MW-Hours/day using 38.6 cfs/mw).*

**At 0900 hour on Monday, October 7, 2013:**

*Decrease turbine release to 1,930 cfs ( $\approx$  1,200 MW-Hours/day using 38.6 cfs/mw).*

**At 0900 hour on Tuesday, October 8, 2013:**

*Decrease turbine release to 1,830 cfs ( $\approx$  1,140 MW-Hours/day using 38.6 cfs/mw).*

### **AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:**

**At 0900 hour on Wednesday, October 2, 2013:**

*Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 200 cfs (gage height = 71.91 with -0.23 shift).*

*Maintain river release at 1,900 cfs (gage height = 59.70 and apply a new shift of -0.21).*

*Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 2,100 cfs.*

**At 0900 hour on Monday, October 7, 2013:**

*Decrease diversions to the Bighorn Canal to 100 cfs (gage height = 70.89 with -0.23 shift).*

*Maintain river release at 1,900 cfs (gage height = 59.70 with -0.21 shift).*

*Decrease total release from the Afterbay to 2,000 cfs.*

**At 0900 hour on Tuesday, October 8, 2013:**

*Decrease diversions to the Bighorn Canal to 0 cfs (gage height = 68.85 with -0.23 shift).*

*Maintain river release at 1,900 cfs (gage height = 59.70 with -0.21 shift).*

*Decrease total release from the Afterbay to 1,900 cfs.*